(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken there under during 1991-92 and 1993, indicating the success achieved as a result thereof ; and

(c) what are the details of the proposals, if any received for protection of Gir and other breeds of lions during 1993 on wards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) India has only one wild population of lions which are found in the Gir Forests of Gujarat. The Central Government regularly gives assistance to State Govts. for the protection and development of the animal and its habitat under the Scheme of 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries'. The amount released under the Scheme during last three years is as follows :

| Year | Amount |
|---|---|
| 1990-91 . . . | 48.40 lakhs |
| 1991-92 . . . | 42.05 lakhs |
| 1992-93 . . . | 26.44 lakhs |

The success of the efforts can be assessed from the fact that the lion population increased from 180 in 1974 to 205 in 1979, 239 in 1985 and 284 in 1990.

(c) The proposal for Central Assistance for developmental works was received during 1993-94 from the Govt. of Gujarat and an amount of Rs. 29.71 lakhs has been released for the purpose.

A scientific evaluation is going on for finding a second home for Asiatic lion in the North Western part of Madhya Pradesh and Southern part of Rajasthan for long term survival of the species and as insurance against any exigencies.

**Disposal of Letters Received From M.Ps**

1002. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *ALIAS* MEEM AFZAL : Will the MINISTER of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to his Ministry during the period from 1st April. 1990 to 31st March, 1993 alongwith year-wise details thereof ;

(b) what is the number of letters out of them that were acknowledged ;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break up of final letters issued by the Ministry containing positive and negative replies respectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH ) : (a) to (d) A total number of 1209 letters were received from members of Parliament during the period from 1st April, 1990 to 31st March 1993. The year wise break up of these letters is as follows :—

| | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of letters received . . | 322 | 486 | 401 | 1029 |

Of these, in respect of 1175 letters final replies have been sent. While positive replies could be furnished in 1044 cases, the number of replies which could be described as negative replies is 131.

**वन भूमि का इस्तेमाल**

**1003. श्री विट्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव :** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरदार सरोवर परियोजना क्षेत्र से विस्थापित लोगों के पुनर्वास के लिए वन भूमि के इस्तेमाल की अनुमति मांगी जा रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस मामले में क्या निर्णय लिया है ?

**पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ ) :** (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) सरदार सरोवर परियोजना के विस्थापितों को पुन: बसाने के लिए धुले जिले में